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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0951
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1848
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN 1424
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 1753
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1511
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2442
RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN 9570

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 001207

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STATE FOR MEYERS IN ISN/CPI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/25/2018
TAGS: [KNNP](#) [TRGY](#) [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [MNUC](#) [AORC](#) [IAEA](#) [IT](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED- PREVENTING IRANIAN ACQUISITION
OF ITALIAN CENTRIFUGE TECHNOLOGY

REF: SECSTATE 99666

Classified By: William R. Meara for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (C) On 23 September, Post delivered reftel demarche on preventing Iranian acquisition of Italian technology for building centrifuges to Pierfrancesco De Cercio of the Italian MFA. De Cercio was initially unaware of Iran's deceptive trade practices related to its nuclear program, particularly concerning the existence of European-based front companies. However, his interest was piqued and he took copious notes when informed of the two Italian companies - VEM SpA and Vetrorsina SpA - that possess filament winding technology sought by Iran for its centrifuge program. De Cercio promised to engage company representatives and impress upon them the necessity of knowing every customer, and the danger posed by Iran. He noted, however, that it may take considerable time for the companies to verify the identity and/or ownership structure of all existing customers. De Cercio promised to report back to Post once he had met with the relevant company officials.
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